spray causes this also. Above conditions can be helped usually by a nutritional spray containing a scalicide. Additional potash and manganese may be used to counteract the excess nitrogen.

PRUNING

Most experts agree the least, the best. Prune when necessary for shaping, cleaning and removal of damaged or diseased branches. If considerable pruning is needed for control of size, the best times in Central and Southern Florida are March, July and early fall; no later than the end of September so that growth may harden before cold weather.

PROPAGATION

Most Hibiscus will propagate readily from air layering or cuttings. However, many hybrids are weak growers and will flourish only when grafted or budded on a strong root stock. Single red is most frequently used as root stock. Many Hibiscus seed quite readily, but the seed does not breed true to the mother plant. This makes hybridizing both easy and fun. Choose parent plants of exceptional quality and a mother plant with growing vigor. Take the pollen from the father plant to a blossom of the mother plant and dust on stigma pads. Pollen and stigma pad must be in exactly the right stage for pollination to take place. It may take considerable trial and error efforts to discover this time. Usually it is between 8:00 A.M. and 10:00 A.M. Tag the seed pod with names of the parents. Watch carefully while maturing. Mature seed should be planted as soon as possible. Germination can be speeded up by nicking round side of seed with a sharp knife to expose a tiny bit of white kernel. Average seedlings bloom when one to two years old. Select only the best ones.

Happy Hibiscusing.

-oOo-

Be sure you have some to spare before giving someone a piece of your mind.

-oOo-

COULD YOU AFFORD IT?

Suppose God charged us for the rain,
Or put a price on a song-bird's strain
Of music--the dawn - mist on the plain,
How much would autumn landscapes cost,
Or a window etched with winter's frost,
And the rainbow's glory so quickly lost?

Suppose that people had to pay
To see the sunset's crimson play
And the magic stars of the Milky Way.
Suppose it was fifty cents a night
To watch the pale moon's silvery light,
Or watch a gull in graceful flight.

How much, I wonder, would it be worth
To smell the good, brown, fragrant earth
In spring? The miracle of birth -
How much do you think would people pay
For a baby's laugh at the close of day?
Supplse God charged us for them, I say!

Suppose we paid to look at the hills,
For the rippling mountain rills.
Or the mating song of the whipporwills,
Or curving breakers of the sea.
For grace, and beauty, and majesty?
And all these things He gives us free!

- Author Unknown -